



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION
HARRISBURG

PY G192.1 1956/1958

September 26, 1958

The Honorable George M. Leader
Governor of Pennsylvania
State Capitol
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Governor Leader:

In compliance with your request of June 18, we are submitting hereinafter our report for the biennium June 1, 1956 - May 31, 1958. We believe that it shows marked progress in the wildlife restoration program.

As you will recall, the untimely death of our Executive Director, Dr. Logan J. Bennett, on September 12, 1957, was a severe shock from which we have not yet recovered. He did much to help mold and advance our future program. However, we believe that the Commission's policy of progression will be carried out with equal ability and enthusiasm by his successor, M. J. Golden, whom we appointed, with your approval, to succeed Dr. Bennett on January 3, 1958.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

New Commissioners

The administrative framework of the Commission was completed with your appointment of James A. Thompson, of Wexford, Allegheny County, who succeeded Ross L. Leffler who resigned, and Russell M. Lucas, of Philipsburg, Centre County, who succeeded Thomas L. McDowell, of Bradford, whose term expired.

Personnel

Personnel at the close of the biennium numbered 281 salaried and 308 hourly employees, the latter used part-time to meet seasonable requirements. Nine employees were retired and five were deceased.

Fourteen employees automatically became members of the Commission's Twenty-five Year Club by having attained that service.

Honors were bestowed upon our former Executive Director, Dr. Logan J. Bennett, our present Director M. J. Golden, and other employees as follows:

Dr. Logan J. Bennett, late Executive Director, was chosen by the Nation's leading outdoor writers to receive the Third Annual Winchester Outdoorsman of the Year Award for 1956.

Dr. Bennett was also appointed a member of the U. S. Navy's Advisory Committee on the Management of Natural Resources on Navy and Marine Corps properties to represent the State Game and Fish Departments' interests.

Leo A. Luttringer, Jr., Conservation Education Assistant, Division of Administration, was presented a Certificate of Merit in the 1956 Nash Conservation Awards Program for his efforts in the interest of soil, water, forest, fish and wildlife.

John Sedam, Chief of the Division of Minerals, was awarded first place and a bronze plaque for his bulletin "Wildlife in the Farm Program" by the American Association for Conservation Information in its Annual Award Program for 1956. The Commission's film on the "Life History and Management of the Wild Turkey" was runner up in the motion picture competition of the Association's award program for 1957.

Mr. M. J. Golden, Executive Director of the Commission, became an ex-officio member of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission consistent with the establishment of the first National Wildlife Refuge within the Commonwealth.

Other recognitions were received for material achievement:

In its annual award program the Pennsylvania Public Relations Society, in March 1958, awarded the Commission the following honors:

Magazine format, Pennsylvania Game News	-	1st prize
Newspaper format, Commission Newsletter	-	2nd prize
Organization booklet, Organization, Policies and Programs of the Commission	-	2nd prize
Special booklet, Pennsylvania Trapping and Predator Control Methods	-	3rd prize
Motion picture, Eastern Wild Turkey in Pennsylvania	-	1st prize

Competition was judged by the School of Journalism of the Pennsylvania State University.

Meetings Attended

Numerous important conferences and meetings were attended by members of the Commission, the Executive Director and the field and office staffs. In some instances Commissioners and personnel took part in the respective programs.

New Legislation

New laws and amendments to existing laws were enacted as follows:

Section 101. Definitions. Provides protection for all hawks during the months of September and October in that portion of northeastern Pennsylvania within the migratory flight lane of these birds of prey. Properly defined it begins at Easton, Pennsylvania, and extends in a southeasterly direction along U. S. Highway Route No. 22 to the Susquehanna River at Harrisburg, then in a northerly direction along the Susquehanna River and the west branch thereof to a point where State Route No. 405 traverses said river at Muncy. From there the line extends in a northeasterly direction along State Route No. 405 to Hughesville, thence extending in an easterly direction along State Route No. 115 to the junction of State Route No. 29 at Pikes Creek. The line then proceeds in a northerly direction along State Route No. 29 to the Pennsylvania State Line, then easterly and southerly along the Pennsylvania State Line to Easton, the point of beginning.

Section 317. This section was amended to permit the occupants of farms to hunt deer on lands resided upon or immediately adjacent thereto without an archery license.

Section 501. Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits. Authorizes County Treasurers to issue archery licenses and to permit the hunting of deer of both sexes with bow and arrow during the exclusive archery seasons, thereby eliminating the requirement of an antlerless deer license during such season.

Section 502. Bag Limits. Exempts from the provision of the section the killing of antlerless deer and spike bucks during the archery season.

Section 702. Fixes Hunting Hours. Whenever any exclusive archery season is held in October the hunting hours shall be from 6:00 a.m., to 5:30 p.m., eastern standard time.

Section 705. Unlawful Killing of Big Game. Exempts the killing of antlerless deer and spike bucks during the archery season from the provisions of the section.

Section 720. Permits for Field Trials. Authorizes field trials without permit from August 1 (in lieu of August 20) to the close of the dog training season; also authorizes field trials, under proper permit, from the close of the dog training season (now March 31) to July 31 instead of April 30.

Section 722. Permits for Fox Hunting Clubs. Authorizes fox hunting by clubs from August 1 (in lieu of August 20) to close of dog training season March 31.

Section 731. Penalties. Applies penalties to the whole or any substantial part of birds or animals.

Section 903. Purchase Price. Establishes a limit of \$100 per acre for State Game Lands. The previous limit was \$30.

Section 936. Archery Preserves. Permits County Treasurers to issue Archery Preserve Permits.

Section 938. Special Dog Training Areas. Permits holders of permits for such areas to allow public hunting of bear and deer thereon.

Section 1002. Possession of Firearms or Dogs. Permits foreign-born residents to own or possess dogs.

Section 1202. Procedure. Provides that all summary proceedings shall be brought before the nearest available magistrate, alderman or justice of the peace.

Section 1212. Return of Fees, Fines, etc. Authorizes the refund of moneys both erroneously and unjustly collected.

Section 1217. Liability for Costs Clarified. This section was completely revised to fix liability for costs not paid by the defendant.

Section 1401. Appropriation for Refund of Fines. This section was amended to appropriate money for refunds unjustly collected, and to authorize the Commission to accept donations from any person, firm, corporation or association which shall be placed in "The Game Fund" and used for the purposes set forth in this section.

ACCOUNTING SECTION - COMPTROLLER

During the two year period ending May 31, 1958, cash receipts of the Commission totalled \$10,207,136.77. Disbursements amounted to \$8,934,479.31. Thirty-one cents of each dollar was used in land management; twenty-two cents for game propagation; twenty cents for law enforcement and the balance for bounty payments, research and other miscellaneous activities.

The balance in the Game Fund as of May 31, 1958, amounted to \$5,109,842.37, including \$3,488,726.12 in U. S. Securities.

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

Hunting Licenses Issued

More resident and non-resident hunting licenses were sold than ever before. During 1956 a record of 902,540 resident and 35,524 non-resident hunting licenses issued was broken in 1957 when 918,387 resident and 39,376 non-resident licenses were sold.

Non-Resident Three-Day Special License

Under the provisions of the Game Law, there were 2608 Non-Resident Three-Day Special Regulated Shooting Grounds Licenses issued in 1956 and 2522 in 1957. The



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fee for these licenses, issued for three consecutive days only, is \$3.15. This license entitles the holder to hunt, take or kill on lawfully operated regulated shooting grounds only, all wild birds and animals which may be legally hunted, taken or killed in the Commonwealth on such grounds and to participate in a shoot held thereon under a regulated shooting grounds permit.

Archery License

The Commission, acting under the provisions of the Game Law, declared the sixth and seventh exclusive archery seasons for the hunting of deer. In 1956 the season was October 1 through October 19 and included only antlered deer. In 1957 the season was October 5 through October 12 and, for the first time, included either sex, regardless of size.

The table below, which gives the number of licenses issued and the number of deer killed by bow hunters by years, reflects the keen interest in this rapidly growing sport:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Licenses Issued</u>	<u>Number of Deer Killed</u>
1951	5,542	33
1952	8,446	24
1953	10,691	84
1954	14,769	55
1955	17,318	119
1956	26,210	224
1957	55,559	1358

The privilege of killing, for the first time in 1957, a deer regardless of size or sex obviously was a contributing factor to the increased archery license sale over 1956.

Hunting Accidents

The Commission used every means at its disposal to promote hunting safety. This included releases to the press, radio and television, talks by Commission personnel and sportsmen, motion pictures, posters, and educational material included in a Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations issued with every hunting license. While some mishaps occurred, it is believed the vigorous campaign produced worthwhile results.

During the two year period there were 44 fatal and 935 non-fatal accidents. There was one fatal accident for every 43,087 hunters, based on the two-year average of 947,913 hunters. A 34-year compilation (1924-1957) of these accidents shows an average of 36 fatal casualties annually, 41.2% of them self-inflicted. During this long period, the average was one fatality for every 19,102 hunters, based on an average of 687,685 hunters per year.

In April 1958 the Commission joined forces with the National Rifle Association in promoting a statewide program of hunter and firearms safety and this project is now in the formulative stage. The Commission's aim is to work with youth groups placing particular emphasis in the schools. To this end the cooperation of all interested agencies has been solicited.

Game Harvest

The success of any wildlife conservation program must be measured to a large degree on the annual harvest of the birds and animals which are managed under that program. Pennsylvania hunters enjoy one of the richest and most diversified game harvests that are gleaned anywhere, at a per capita expenditure which is absurdly low.

Aside from the recreation they obtain, which cannot be measured in dollars and cents, any reasonably successful hunter secures much more than his license money's worth. If the Game Commission were to try to replace the annual harvest from sources other than Mother Nature, which of course is next to impossible, the cost would be prohibitive. To replace only the deer killed in 1956 and 1957, if that were possible, would cost \$11,027,775; the bear \$62,000; rabbits \$5,971,848; hares \$17,915; squirrels \$3,334,938; raccoons \$672,310; wild turkeys \$459,555; ruffed grouse \$2,288,525; pheasants \$4,736,310; and quail \$44,948, or an aggregate replacement value of \$26,637,377. The fact that none of the animals are replaceable in sufficient quantity to meet demands proves beyond doubt that good game management is the only answer to a continued abundance of wildlife.

	<u>1957</u> <u>Game Kill</u>	<u>1956</u> <u>Game Kill</u>	
	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	
Deer, Legal Antlered	49,254**	41,921***	*Small Game, based on Field Officers estimates; Big Game, based on individual reports filed by hunters.
Deer, Legal Antlerless	55,862**	(Closed)	
Total Deer	105,116	41,921	
Bears	294	335	**Includes 1,358 Deer killed during the 1957 Special Archery Season.
Rabbits	1,455,862	1,530,062	
Hares (Snowshoes)	1,614	1,969	
Hungarian Partridges	(Closed)	(Closed)	
Squirrels	728,342	939,127	***Includes 224 Deer killed during the 1956 Special Archery Season.
Raccoons	139,397	129,527	
Wild Turkeys	16,156	14,481	
Ruffed Grouse	41,694	49,847	
Ringneck Pheasants	465,955	446,266	#Unprotected - No data.
Quail	12,057	10,417	
Woodcocks	9,854	11,126	
Rails, Gallinules & Coots	5,609	6,835	
Grackles (Blackbirds)	-----#	-----#	
Wild Waterfowl	64,625	77,616	
Woodchucks	311,497	326,044	
Doves	39,699	24,838	
Total Number	3,397,771	3,610,411	

Antlerless Deer Season - 1957

There was no open season on antlerless deer during 1956. After careful study of information available from various sources, which included:

1. The low 1956 winter kill which would tend to increase the already acute incidences of highway accidents unless the deer population was decreased.
2. Deer damage resulting from deer being forced into the marginal areas, seeking food, became more acute in many sections.
3. In the interest of reproduction of desirable forest growth to improve small game habitat, the Commission declared a three-day season, December 16, 17 and 18, immediately after the antlered season, to harvest some excess deer. Special Antlerless Deer Licenses costing \$1.15 were required. The quota established for 66 counties (Philadelphia County excepted) was 336,500 of which 334,660 licenses were issued. Sportsmen reported killing 55,284 animals during the three days.

Training

To fill the ranks caused by retirement, death or resignation, the Commission enrolled twenty candidates in its School of Conservation during 1956, eighteen of whom graduated. They are presently serving as Game Protectors.

Public Information

The Commission's weekly newsletter is sent to 661 newspaper editors in Pennsylvania; 77 newspaper editors in adjoining states; 163 radio and television stations, most of which are in Pennsylvania; reporters in the Capitol News Room; and to all active and retired Commission personnel.

Some 35 to 40 special releases are sent at timely periods during each year, usually with the newsletter. Items for immediate attention are on such subjects as: game and fur seasons; hunter safety; laws and regulations having to do with hunting and trapping; information on the acquisition of State Game Lands or the establishment of water impoundments for waterfowl, etc.

Public relations at the local level is carried on by Conservation Information Assistants in each of the six administrative divisions, and by the 150 District Game Protectors throughout the Commonwealth.

Visual Aids

The Commission conducted an annual sustained TV program of thirteen weeks each. The subjects, which depicted all segments of the Commission's program, were of twelve and a half minutes duration and were very favorably received. The TV viewing audiences for the programs numbered approximately 300,000,000.

A feature motion picture on THE EASTERN WILD TURKEY IN PENNSYLVANIA, the first of its kind, was produced. It dramatically portrays the life history and management of this famous game bird and vividly depicts the manner in which it was saved from extinction and restored as an important natural resource. Since its production, which took three and a half years of painstaking effort, it has received numerous high compliments, was awarded an honorary prize in the American Association for Conservation Information and was selected for viewing at the National Salons in Edinburgh, Scotland, and Venice, Italy. It is in color and sound and runs approximately thirty minutes.

Many other pictures were produced including such subjects as THE BLACK BEAR, THE BEAVER, PENNSYLVANIA BIRDLIFE, HOMES FOR WILDLIFE, CAFETERIAS FOR WILDLIFE, THE PYMATUNING WATERFOWL SANCTUARY, THE DAY-OLD PHEASANT CHICK PROGRAM, WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT, HUNTING SAFETY, THE PENNSYLVANIA DEER STORY, HOW TO SHOOT THE BOW, FARMER-SPORTSMEN RELATIONS and DAYS AFIELD.

In the fall of 1957 the Commission cooperated with the Governor's Office in the production of a safe hunting film which was ultimately shown on TV stations in the Commonwealth prior to and during the gunning season.

Numerous 35mm color transparencies were obtained from which three major lectures were prepared and distributed to the Field Division Supervisors. They comprised a discussion of the Commission's waterfowl management program; a 115 slide lecture on the all over management program; and more than 200 slides on Pennsylvania birdlife.

Major Exhibits

Major exhibits were displayed at the State Farm Show; the Philadelphia Motor Boat and Sportsmen's Show, Philadelphia, and the Allegheny County Free Fair, Pittsburgh. Numerous token exhibits also were displayed at the local level.

Records indicate that more than a half million persons visited the Commission's permanent wildlife exhibit at Hershey and the Pymatuning Waterfowl Sanctuary, Linesville, Crawford County, each year. The popularity of these two facilities is tremendous, and they have become outdoor nature schools for thousands of school children.

Lectures

More than 7,200 meetings of sportsmen, farmers and farm youth groups, granges, school children, women's and garden clubs, civic and church organizations were attended by field and office personnel of the Commission. Considerable emphasis was placed on conservation education in the schools.

Special Programs

Annual grants were provided to the following organizations: The Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh; Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, and the Future Farmers of America to further the conservation program.

The Commission participated in a pilot project aimed at the conservation education of school children by presenting this theme to sixth grade pupils in the Brockway school area of Jefferson County for three days during 1956 and 1957. The results proved that school children are very receptive to the subject and more schools are being encouraged to follow this example.

A very active part was taken in the National Boy Scout Jamboree held at Valley Forge in July 1957. Several Commission representatives served on important committees of this outstanding affair and a large wildlife management exhibition was displayed in three areas of the encampment.

In October 1957 the Commission cooperated in an outstanding outdoor education workshop conducted at Blue Knob State Park, Bedford County. This attempt to invoke outdoor education in our schools and colleges is a wonderful step in the right direction and will be further stressed in the future.

As a result of a cooperative wildlife management program between the Commission and the Future Farmers, many thousands of farm acres were improved from the standpoint of wildlife food and cover. A comparable program was carried on by 4-H Clubs in nearly half the counties of the Commonwealth with the cooperation of the College of Agriculture, Pennsylvania State University.

A shoulder insignia, designated as a Conservation Award, was prepared in the form of a keystone containing the ruffed grouse, Pennsylvania's State Game Bird, as a token of recognition to Junior Club members, Boy Scouts, Future Farmers and 4-H Club members who make outstanding contributions to the conservation program.

A close liaison was maintained between the Commission and the Department of Public Instruction to further the conservation program throughout the school system. Information on the Commission's program and the Commonwealth's wildlife resources was also made available to the public upon request in the form of free pamphlets, leaflets and other literature.

Publications - Game News

The Commission's official monthly magazine "PENNSYLVANIA GAME NEWS" continued to maintain nationally recognized quality in both text and format. Paid circulation during these two years averaged 44,690 copies per month and an additional 15,000 copies were mailed on a complimentary basis to other state and federal conservation agencies, sportsmen's associations, members of the Legislature, outdoor writers, newspapers, public school libraries, Deputy Game Protectors, and landowners enrolled in the Commission's Cooperative Farm-Game Program.

Other publications distributed on a paid basis during the period included: A set of Bird Charts in full color; a set of four Bird and Mammal Charts in full color; a booklet, "Pennsylvania Wildlife;" a book, "Birds of the Pymatuning;" a "Sportsman's Map of Pennsylvania;" and a booklet, "Pennsylvania Trapping and Predator Control Methods."

Three completely new publications were prepared and distributed including: "Pennsylvania's Wildlife Conservation History;" "The Pennsylvania Game Commission's Organization, Policies and Programs;" and "A Suggested Program for Junior Conservation Clubs." The pamphlet containing the rules and regulations for the "Future Farmer Wildlife Conservation Program" was revised to include new practices.

Junior Conservation Camp

The Commission furnished instructors and material assistance to the Pennsylvania Junior Conservation Camp sponsored by the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs during the summer months of 1956 and 1957. This outdoor camping experience was enjoyed by 318 high school boys in eight separate sessions.

DIVISION OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Construction and Maintenance

More than 38 miles of roads, nine miles of fire trails, twelve storage sheds and eleven corn cribs were constructed to provide access for management and storage facilities for equipment and corn used in winter feeding.

Maintenance included approximately 4100 miles of boundary lines, 970 miles of equipment roads, 635 miles of fire trails, and 115,000 acres of refuges, propagation areas and special preserves. All Commission-owned buildings were kept in repair.

Under the Small Marsh Development Program, nine marsh ponds were completed. These impoundments flooded over 93 acres of marsh land located on State Game Lands and other publicly owned land. This acreage of water and adjoining wetland will materially supplement existing natural and developed areas for waterfowl by furnishing additional feeding and resting grounds.

Food and Cover Development

Timber on over 7,525 acres of State Game Lands was harvested by local lumbermen. Five hundred twenty-three thousand, six hundred fifty-nine dollars and sixty-two cents was received as payment for 20,221,519 board feet of sawlogs; 1,522 tons of mine timber; 26,127 cords of paper and chemical wood; 99,157 mine props and posts; 1,511 evergreen trees and 34 cords of firewood. Sales during this period have increased greatly over any previous twenty-four month period since timber was first sold from State Game Lands in 1936. The sale of forest products in wooded areas has augmented the Commission's wildlife habitat improvement program. These benefits are derived by opening the forest canopy, permitting sunlight to enter. Sprout growth and other vegetative reproduction is increased, providing more food and cover for game.

Over 2,190 acres of timberland were improved for wildlife through the medium of forest release cuttings, thinning of timber stand, pushing over inferior forest growth with bulldozers, and releasing fruit trees. Over 37,560 fruit trees, principally apple, were pruned to improve fruiting. Woodland border release cuttings were conducted on many acres. A total of approximately 1,000 acres was cut, providing strips of brushy cover averaging 46 feet wide for a distance of 942,127 linear feet along woodland and forest edges. Over 147 acres of older border cuttings were recut. These recutting operations averaged 40 feet wide for a distance of 121,967 linear feet.

Border cuttings have proven valuable in small game management by providing better game cover adjoining fields and other openings. Food conditions improve also by increased sprout growth and better fruiting of shrubs and vines.

Personnel cleared 442 acres of forests and reverting fields to provide new food strips. On these and other open areas of State Game Lands and leased areas 4,386 acres of food strips were planted at 2,443 locations; 1,735 acres were seeded to grasses and clovers; 9,387 acres were mowed; 1,910 acres limed and 2,468 acres fertilized to improve nesting sites and food conditions for wildlife. In addition, nearly 2,600 acres of Game Lands were planted to grains or seeded to grasses and clovers by share-cropping farmers. Strip-cropping and other approved soil conservation practices were followed when planting fields on Commission-owned lands.

The Howard Nursery was deeded to the Commission by the United States Government late in 1957. This valuable property of 77 acres had been under lease from the Soil Conservation Service since January 1954, until it was deeded, at no cost, to the Commission. During the period of this report, 9,401,000 conifer, shrub and vine seedlings were shipped from the Nursery. Of this number over 5,567,443 were planted on Commission-owned or leased lands and the remaining 3,833,557 distributed to sportsmen, Boy Scouts, and other groups promoting conservation, to be planted on lands open to public hunting.

During this period the Commission's Land purchase Program increased State Game Lands from 907,221 to 922,723 acres. The Commission now owns land in 63 of the 67 counties of the Commonwealth.

Farm-Game Cooperative Section

The Cooperative Farm-Game Program which is still one of the Commission's best farmer-sportsmen relations projects, totaled 1,029,325 acres and included 166 projects consisting of 10,230 farms, as of May 31, 1958.

Since funds limited the program to approximately 1,000,000 acres, which were already leased at the end of the last biennium, there has been very little change in its status except for some cancellations and the execution of new agreements.

Land Titles and Records

As of May 31, 1958, the total area of Game Lands owned by the Commission was 922,722.87 acres, divided into 206 units. This was a gain of 15,501.87 acres and 8 units during the biennium.

The Commission paid a total of \$3,720,884.94 for the purchase of all of the Game Lands owned at the end of the biennium, or an average of approximately \$4.14 per acre. Purchases completed amounted to \$260,930.60, or an average of approximately \$16.84 per acre.

The total area of all game management projects, including those on lands owned by the Commission as well as those on land owned by others, and including refuges in State Forests and all other public lands, decreased slightly from 2,051,753.86 to 2,034,240.46 acres.

DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Prosecution Record

During the period 8,138 cases of Game Law violations were prosecuted resulting in penalties amounting to \$289,917.05. The ratio of successful cases is gratifying and denotes the excellent judgment on the part of our officers in the administration of Game Law enforcement.

Hunting and Trapping License Revocations

The Commission denied the hunting and trapping privileges of 2,382 convicted offenders of the Game Law. As a result of Referee Hearings in hunting accidents, where negligence or carelessness was found to exist, 121 additional persons lost hunting and trapping privileges for various periods of time. A more satisfactory system of evaluating individual cases was adopted in the interest of consistency.

Bear Damage Claims

The Game Law provides for payment to cover damage by bears to livestock, bee hives and poultry. During the period 66 such claims were adjusted and a total of \$2,434.22 paid the claimants.

Deer-Proof Fencing

The Commission entered into agreements with thirteen landowners to provide 3,680 rods of deer-proof fencing and 561 pounds of staples to protect their orchards, nurseries or farm crops from depredations by deer. Under the terms of these agreements the property owners must furnish the posts, labor and erect and maintain the fence. The cost to the Commission for this cooperation was \$9,995.

Uniforms

New summer weight uniforms and replacements for their dress uniforms were supplied to all field officers at a total cost of approximately \$10,000. Two hundred twenty-five new style hats for summer use and 58 replacement dress hats were purchased at a cost of \$2,467.82. Five hundred and twenty-five pairs of shoes, which include field and dress shoes, were furnished at a cost of \$5,409.75.

Equipment

Raincoats, binoculars, side arms, traps and other necessities were purchased for field officers at a cost of \$8,891.35.

Special Permits

Special permits were issued in the amount of 4,083 with fees of \$41,526 received. These permits include Game and Fur Propagation, Raw Fur Dealer's, Regulated Shooting Grounds, Taxidermists, Field and Retriever Trials, etc.

Radio-Short Wave Two-Way System

During the period groundwork was laid and bids requested for the installation of a statewide system of radio communication. A portion of the cost will be borne by Civilian Defense.

Deputy Game Protectors

The present force of Deputy Game Protectors numbers approximately 1500 which makes a good workable segment that can be efficiently administered. The Commission now offers opportunity for schooling in this position through four in-service training meetings a year. Deputies serve without pay except when employed for specific law enforcement duties.

Predator Control

Practical outdoor demonstrations were given to 4,832 persons, including farm boys, sportsmen, etc., on the most effective trapping methods. Many Game Protectors, as well as the Student Officers at the Ross Leffler School of Conservation, were also instructed in all types of predator control techniques.

The Commission produced an all new, profusely illustrated 72 page trapping bulletin entitled, "Pennsylvania Trapping and Predator Control Methods," which was authored by the Supervisor of the Predator Control Section.

Bounty Claims

During the two-year period 20,351 bounty claims were examined and approved for payment. They covered the killing of 22,822 gray foxes, 35,974 red foxes and 2,349 great-horned owls. Payment therefor amounted to \$246,929.00.

In addition, 289 bounty claims were sent to the field for investigation of possible fraud. Investigation of these claims resulted in the collection of \$1,615.00 in penalties. Bounty was refused in claims covering 240 gray foxes, 333 red foxes and 14 great-horned owls, resulting in a savings of \$2,362.00.

DIVISION OF MINERALS

Under the Game Law the Commission has authority to advertise, execute and supervise Oil and Gas Leases, and to utilize or sell minerals and other products from State Game Lands.

Oil and Gas Royalties and Rentals

Records indicate that 1,127,067,000 cubic feet of natural gas was marketed from three Oil and Gas Leases granted prior to this biennium and three new leases, executed or acquired since June 1, 1956. Royalties and land rental payments from these leases resulted in an income of \$142,317.66, which was deposited in the Game Fund.

Receipts from royalties on natural gas production, land rentals and checks forfeited for Oil and Gas leasing since 1953 total \$1,010,703.53. This income has been set aside by the Commission for purchase of additional State Game Lands and field division headquarters buildings.

Coal Royalties - State Game Lands

Eight permits or leases for open-pit coal mining were in effect during the period, resulting in an income to the Commission of \$78,650.73, received as surface damage royalties for the removal of 650,178.93 tons of coal.

Fire Clay Royalties - State Game Lands

The North American Refractories Company, operating out of Curwensville, Pennsylvania, mined 29,299.2 tons of fire clay from State Game Lands #89, Clinton County, paying the Commission \$2,343.94 as surface damage royalty. The lease expired January 19, 1958 and all equipment was removed from the tract.

DIVISION OF PROPAGATION

The program of furnishing pheasant chicks to Sportsmen's Organizations and farmers was continued. During the two years 468,115 pheasant chicks were supplied, of which 380,561 were raised to 12 weeks of age and liberated. This represents an average of nearly 81% raised as compared with 52% ten years ago. The number of chicks shipped in 1957 - 234,356 - was the largest distribution made since the program was started.

The production of wild turkeys at the State Wild Turkey Farm was increased so that now more than 6,000 are liberated annually. New turkey hardening pens were constructed in the Southeast and Southwest Divisions. Each of the six divisions has a pen located in mountainous sections, where young game farm toms are hardened for six weeks before liberation. The population of wild turkeys in the Commonwealth is now at an all-time high.

Game Farm production of bobwhite quail was increased slightly. Quail eggs are supplied to owners of junglefowl on a statewide basis. After hatching, the hen and brood are liberated. Those released, in addition to those from the Game Farm, resulted in a very encouraging increase in the quail population. At present it is higher than any time since 1935.

Pheasant production at the Game Farms has been maintained at full capacity and the purchase program has been held at the same level. A farm of 51 1/2 acres adjoining the Western Game Farm in Crawford County was purchased to increase the holding facilities. The Southwest Hatchery in Armstrong County has been given Game Farm status by the construction of 50 new brooder houses and a superintendent's dwelling.

The rabbits trapped during this period numbered 115,503. This was accomplished during a thirty day season each winter.

The rearing of five week old Mallard ducks was continued. Three hundred ducks are held for egg production at Refuge #510, Pymatuning, where facilities for breeding and holding were increased. Hatching was started in 1957, and eventually the Duck Farm will produce all the ducklings desired for liberation. Beginning in 1959 it will no longer be necessary to purchase any day-olds from commercial breeders.

Summary of All Game Released

(Game Farms, Purchased, Trapped and Transferred)

Ringneck Pheasants	474,724
Cottontail Rabbits	187,538
Bobwhite Quail	26,164
Wild Ducks	15,677
Wild Turkeys	12,404
Canada Geese	329
Snowshoe Hares	135

DIVISION OF RESEARCH

Research studies concerning several game species and practical management methods have embraced large areas of the Commonwealth. Studies of our most important big game animal, the white-tailed deer, have shown the need for closely regulated harvests of deer of both sexes to maintain the herd in numbers compatible with the food supply. Despite harvests of antlerless deer by hunters in 1955 and 1957, many deer were lost to other causes -- killed by vehicles on highways and by farmers for damage to crops, etc. A summary of these losses follows:

	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u> (Jan. & Feb.)
Crop Damage	944	1898	2281	61
Vehicles	4598	7567	9347	744
Miscellaneous	<u>2088</u>	<u>3896</u>	<u>3663</u>	<u>446</u>
	7630	13361	15291	1251*

*823 during similar period of 1956

Other studies included: An Evaluation of Habitat Development for Wildlife; Wild Turkey; Right-of-Way Management; Woodcock Management; Experimental Management of the Conemaugh Flood Control Reservoir Tract; Waterfowl Banding and several miscellaneous and cooperative undertakings, the latter with Pennsylvania State University.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Elwood Huffman, President
Andrew C. Long, Vice-President
Dewey H. Miller, Secretary
Col. Nicholas Biddle
H. L. Buchanan
Russell M. Lucas
James A. Thompson
John C. Herman

Attest:

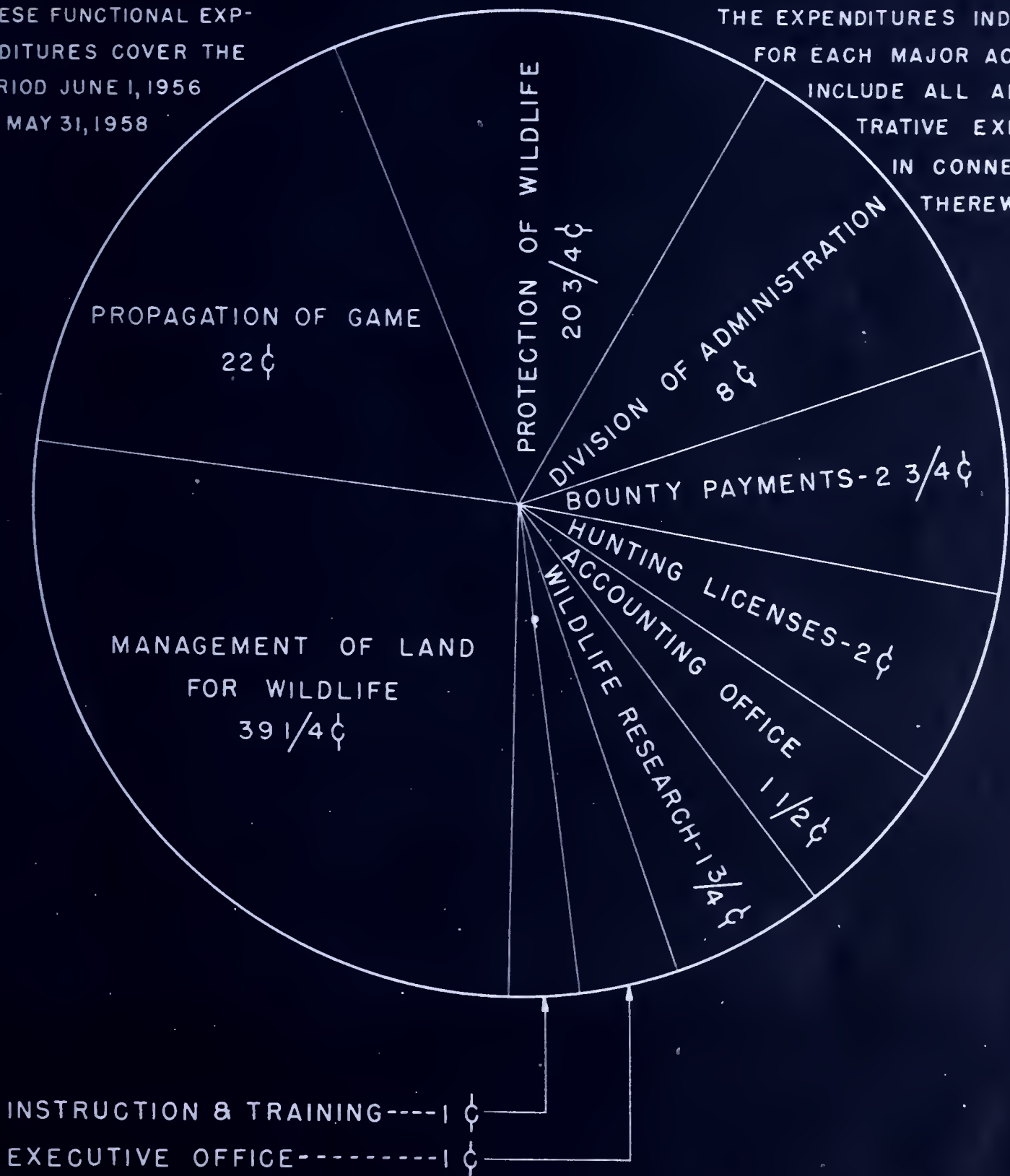


M. J. Golden
Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
 PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION
 HOW THE GAME FUND DOLLAR WAS SPENT

THESE FUNCTIONAL EXPENDITURES COVER THE PERIOD JUNE 1, 1956 TO MAY 31, 1958

THE EXPENDITURES INDICATED FOR EACH MAJOR ACTIVITY INCLUDE ALL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH



earmarked Funds

Under the provisions of the Game Law, as amended by Act 271, Session of 1949, not less than \$1.25 from each Resident Hunter's Licenses fee shall be used for improving and maintaining natural wildlife habitat on land that is available for public hunting; the purchase, maintenance, operation, rental and storage of equipment used in this work; the purchase, distribution, planting, cultivating and harvesting of game foods; the purchase, trapping and distribution of all species of game, as well as providing protection to the property of Farm-Game Cooperators.

This program has been in operation for nine (9) years. During the nine (9) year period the Commission spent \$1,103,332.30 in excess of the minimum requirements.

Act 632, Session of 1955 provides that the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) of the one dollar and fifteen cents (\$1.15) fee collected for issuing resident and non-resident hunters' licenses and tags for antlerless deer, shall be used solely for cutting or otherwise removing overshadowing tree growth, to produce underbrush sprouts and saplings for deer food and cover on game land.

The schedules below show the expenditure of funds in compliance with the above stated acts.

Receipts and Expenditures

Act #271, 1949

License Year	Resident Licenses Sold	Minimum to be Expended	Expenditures	Expended Fiscal Year Ended May 31, ____	Over (*) or Under (-) Minimum	Cumulative Over (*) or Under (-)
1949	810,059	\$1,012,573.75	\$1,012,465.96 (A)	1950	\$ 107.79 -	\$ 107.79 -
1950	801,948	1,002,435.00	1,266,856.18	1951	264,421.18 *	264,313.39 *
1951	810,349	1,012,936.25	1,095,938.26	1952	83,002.10 *	347,315.40 *
1952	830,147	1,037,683.75	1,163,287.09	1953	125,603.34 *	472,918.74 *
1953	859,137	1,073,921.25	1,247,584.35	1954	173,663.19 *	646,581.84 *
1954	868,577	1,085,721.25	1,215,545.03	1955	129,823.78 *	776,405.62 *
1955	897,776	1,122,220.00	1,150,865.08	1956	28,645.80 *	805,050.70 *
1956	901,775	1,127,218.75	1,280,927.58	1957	153,708.83 *	958,759.53 *
1957	934,065 (B)	1,167,581.25	1,312,154.02	1958	144,572.77 *	1,103,332.30 *

(A) Expenditures from September 1, 1949 (effective date of act) to May 31, 1950.

(B) Estimated License Sales.

Receipts and Expenditures

Act #632, 1955

License Year	Antlerless Deer Licenses Sold	Minimum to be Expended	Expenditures	Expended Fiscal Year Ended May 31, ____	Over (*) or Under (-) Minimum	Cumulative Over (*) or Under (-)
1957	334,683	\$334,683.00	\$104,218.85	1958	\$230,464.15 -	\$230,464.15 -

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CASH BALANCES

JUNE 1, 1956 TO MAY 31, 1958

REVENUE

Cash in State Treasury to credit of "Game Fund" June 1, 1956.....	\$ 3,744,850.73
Less: Unpaid Vouchers in Fiscal Offices as of May 31, 1956.....	37,884.99
Net Cash Available for Expenditure as of June 1, 1956.....	\$ 3,706,965.74
Receipts June 1, 1956 to May 31, 1958:	
Resident Hunters' Licenses.....	\$ 5,510,332.16
Non-Resident Hunters' Licenses.....	1,494,796.64
Antlerless Deer Licenses.....	334,590.00
Archery Licenses.....	163,553.10
Non-Resident Trapping Licenses.....	500.00
Special 3-day Non-Resident Regulated Shooting Ground Licenses.....	15,349.70
Special Game Permits.....	42,336.00
Game Law Fines.....	292,836.71
Interest on Deposits.....	31,137.04
Sale of Skins and Cans.....	13,196.80
Sale of Unserviceable Property (Through Property and Supplies).....	4,910.00
Miscellaneous.....	59,403.67
Rental of State Property.....	46,715.11
Sale of Wood Products.....	523,957.03
Contributions from Federal Government.....	1,135,007.61
Sale of Publications.....	91,047.15
Interest on Securities.....	152,373.39
Leased Land Act 43 - 1955 Session.....	5,220.70
Ground Rentals and Royalties from Gas.....	142,317.06
Coal and Clay Royalties.....	80,512.27
Total Receipts from All Sources.....	15,207,137.77
Total Funds Available During the Biennium.....	13,914,102.51

CLASSIFICATION OF EXPENDITURES BY ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS

Classification of Expenditures	Exec. Office and Accounting	Division of Admin- istration	Conservation School (Instruction and Training)	Division of Preparation	Division of Research	Division of Law En- forcement	Division of Land Management	Total
Salaries.....	\$163,612.55	\$309,154.30	\$36,335.95	\$ 255,957.98	\$ 24,922.00	\$1,009,982.20	\$ 645,053.27	\$2,599,711.35
Wages.....	17,534.60	20,571.69	12,395.06	376,001.13	6,680.01	194,713.63	980,287.13	1,400,113.25
Printing and Stationery.....	2,445.65	154,871.42	109.72	103.11	196.63	28,872.57	5,795.32	172,504.63
Food and Forage.....	-0-	137.00	7,513.72	250,099.14	-0-	388.53	112,252.27	371,540.44
Materials and Supplies.....	2,410.39	26,009.50	3,240.21	735,753.17	5,512.23	41,308.17	425,001.77	1,239,315.44
Fees and Professional Services.....	-0-	48,451.41	945.96	64.00	-0-	8,730.16	43,744.74	101,957.47
Traveling Expenses.....	15,204.09	43,134.47	13,125.30	60,242.43	21,443.17	320,442.40	171,557.07	601,133.22
Motor Vehicle Supplies.....	980.31	2,334.82	1,002.98	31,519.31	73.32	9,794.59	2,511.62	132,211.95
Postage.....	-0-	35,265.74	17.66	1,442.00	135.38	5,064.36	4,400.22	46,348.74
Telephone and Telegraph.....	2,605.53	3,043.53	1,085.93	10,983.78	1,204.10	18,564.58	26,543.68	44,033.13
Newspaper Advertising.....	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	12,558.69	3,447.33	22,205.02
Light, Heat, Power and Fuel.....	-0-	1,591.89	2,430.73	19,959.08	-0-	1,102.30	3,022.99	22,513.49
Contracted Repairs.....	144.63	1,245.97	2,774.27	8,221.77	10.75	610.62	40,222.04	53,570.05
Rent of Real Estate.....	-0-	1,969.94	-0-	3,506.22	-0-	5,939.07	14,298.11	25,703.34
Rent of Equipment.....	17,904.50	1,006.13	37.50	11,073.30	1,716.70	1,414.32	25,340.51	53,493.02
Insurance.....	1,358.35	2,114.41	22.27	5,337.45	472.36	6,760.90	21,122.12	37,107.44
Other Maintenance Services.....	1,547.20	12,556.07	1,094.06	1,343.50	56.00	12,175.19	1,155.40	35,430.38
Motor Vehicles.....	-0-	1,504.09	-0-	15,272.00	-0-	-0-	141,557.42	158,333.77
Equipment and Machinery.....	2,001.95	11,057.33	1,358.31	16,817.61	382.40	8,572.43	78,942.60	119,139.33
Land.....	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	310,402.53	310,402.53
Buildings and Structures.....	-0-	3,217.17	-0-	7,383.93	-0-	7,732.05	80,137.16	94,468.31
Non Structural Improvements.....	-0-	-0-	-0-	6,624.48	-0-	-0-	-0-	6,624.48
Grants and Subsidies.....	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	24,000.00	-0-	-0-	24,000.00
Misc. Awards, Bounties, Gratuities.....	-0-	8,725.00	-0-	-0-	-0-	252,507.02	-0-	261,232.02
Fixed Charges.....	-0-	-0-	-0-	529.57	-0-	-0-	152,927.77	153,457.34
Refunds of Receipts.....	1,029.15	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	1,029.15
TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY GAME COMMISSION.....	\$229,403.50	\$688,153.72	\$83,890.33	\$1,918,740.26	\$140,805.71	\$2,014,214.24	\$3,376,233.90	\$8,451,446.60

Plus: Expenditures by Other State Departments

Department of Revenue - Printing Hunting Licenses Tags and Miscellaneous Forms (*).....	\$ 133,577.15
Department of State - Contributions to State Employees' Retirement System (*).....	225,946.50
Department of Labor and Industry - Contributions to Social Security (*).....	73,500.00
Department of Treasury - Replacement Checks (*).....	9.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES..... \$ 8,784,479.31

Cash Balance May 31, 1958 Available for Future Expenditure..... 4,211,623.20

Plus: Unpaid Vouchers in Fiscal Offices as of May 31, 1958 Amounting to..... 122,210.17

Cash Balance in State Treasury to Credit of "Game Fund" May 31, 1958 (Includes U. S. Securities in the amount of \$3,488,726.12)..... \$ 5,109,442.37

(*) These items are paid out of the "Game Fund" upon requisitions drawn by the Department of Revenue, Department of State, Department of Labor and Industry and the Department of the Treasury and are included to complete the picture of the "Game Fund" finances.

